

## **IN THE CLAIMS**

Please replace all prior versions and claims listings with the following claims listing:

Claims 1 – 13 (cancelled).

Claim 14. (currently amended): ~~The method of claim 12~~ A method of heat pipe wick

manufacture comprising the steps of

positioning metal felt adjacent to a metal substrate,

positioning a porous metal exoskeleton member adjacent to the metal felt

whereby the metal felt is between the metal substrate and the porous metal exoskeleton

member,

grit blasting elements selected from the group consisting of

the metal substrate,

the porous metal exoskeleton member, and

both the metal substrate and the metal exoskeleton member, and

applying heat sufficient to cause the metal felt to adhere to both the porous metal

exoskeleton member and the metal substrate wherein a temperature of 1100 C is attained

by the metal felt, the metal substrate, and the porous metal exoskeleton member during

the step of applying heat.

Claim 15. (currently amended): ~~The method of claim 13~~ A method of heat pipe wick

manufacture comprising the steps of

positioning metal felt adjacent to a metal substrate,

positioning a porous metal exoskeleton member adjacent to the metal felt

whereby the metal felt is between the metal substrate and the porous metal exoskeleton

member,

applying brazing material in a step selected from the group consisting of  
applying brazing material between the metal felt and metal substrate,  
applying brazing material between the metal felt and the porous metal  
exoskeleton member, and  
applying brazing material between the metal felt and metal substrate as well as  
between the metal felt and the porous exoskeleton member  
grit blasting elements selected from the group consisting of  
the metal substrate,  
the porous metal exoskeleton member, and  
both the metal substrate and the metal exoskeleton member, and  
applying heat sufficient to cause the metal felt to adhere to both the porous metal  
exoskeleton member and the metal substrate wherein a temperature of 1100 C is attained  
by the metal felt, the metal substrate, and the porous metal exoskeleton member during  
the step of applying heat.

Claims 15 – 19 (cancelled).